



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Nguyen *et al.* Art Unit : 1639  
Serial No. : 10/677,977 Examiner : Wessendorf, Teresa D.  
Filed : October 02, 2003 Conf. No. : 9061  
Cust. No. : 77202  
Title : **METHODS OF GENERATING AND SCREENING FOR PROTEASES  
WITH ALTERED SPECIFICITY**

**Mail Stop RCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION PURSUANT  
TO 37 C.F.R. §1.114**

Dear Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment, which is responsive to the Final Office Action, mailed October 13, 2010, is filed with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) of the above-captioned application. Entry of the following amendments and consideration of the following remarks respectfully are requested. An Information Disclosure Statement accompanies this response.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of the claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 12 of this paper.

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450.

Christopher M. Ochs